



Dorothy Hamm
MIDDLE SCHOOL

DHMS PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:45pm

Held in person and via Zoom

DHMS PTSA General Meeting Welcome and Call to Order

PTSA President Lindsey Englerth welcomed attendees to the PTSA meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:49pm.

Principal's Report

Principal Smith highlighted activities and news:

- Federal Impact Aid Survey coming tomorrow through ParentSquare
- Option school applications, programs, transfers process has begun; email sent today
- Faculty and staff are engaged in professional learning – Virginia Literacy Act and Science of Reading
- Second Quarter – relishing the routine including binder maintenance, agenda use, and support thru TAs and Phoenix Time. These efforts help DHMS students' executive functioning.

Guest Speaker

Regina Boyd, the Advanced Academics Coach (AAC), spoke to the group. Her discussion included areas of identification, professional learning communities, classroom support, content area specifics, and communication. Ms. Boyd detailed Intensified classes, clustered classes, and differentiation. She noted that the classroom teacher is the driver of differentiation with the support of the AAC.

Ms. Boyd provided information on additional parent resources, which can be found on the DHMS website. She noted that there will be a screening and information session in February 2025 and that students are identified through the CogAT screener and open referrals. Additionally, she mentioned the book *Thrivers* as a wonderful resource for parents.

Ms. Boyd answered questions from participants including confirming that new students will be tested; that APS offers reciprocity with other school districts on a case-by-case basis; and that students who had partial screeners in the past can still be referred for services.

President's Updates

Ms. Englerth

- Grant money to teachers - almost all grant requests were accepted and money currently going out to teachers.
- Calendar updates were shared and will be offered in the newsletter.
- The next full membership meeting is in February.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:50pm.